

**CHAPTER NO. 146**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2200**

**By Ford**

**Substituted for: House Bill No. 2131**

**By John DeBerry, Shaw**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 3, relative to vital records.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-102(9), is amended by deleting that subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(9) "Live birth" means the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of human conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such expulsion or extraction, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached. Heartbeats shall be distinguished from transient cardiac contractions, and respirations shall be distinguished from fleeting respiratory efforts or gasps;

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: April 28, 2005**

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**APPROVED this 9th day of May 2005**

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR